

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A boot for use on a vehicle joint, said boot comprising:
a body;
a first end of said body having a tubular shape; and
5 a second end of said body having a sealing area, said sealing area having at least
sealing bead for sealing the joint.

2. The boot of claim 1 wherein said sealing area having a second sealing bead.

10 3. The boot of claim 2 wherein said sealing bead is located at an end of said sealing
area.

4. The boot of claim 3 wherein said second sealing bead is located approximately
90° from said sealing bead.

15 5. The boot of claim 1 further including an annular channel on an inside surface of
said sealing area.

6. The boot of claim 1 wherein the boot is made of a flexible material.

20 7. The boot of claim 6 wherein said flexible material is a thermoplastic.

8. A constant velocity joint assembly for a vehicle, said assembly comprising:
a shaft;
a first joint part connected to said shaft;
a second joint part cooperable with said first joint part to transmit torque

5 therebetween;

a boot having a first end contacting said shaft and a second end associated with
said second joint part, said second end having a sealing area including at least one sealing bead;
and

10 a boot cover having a first end affixable to said second joint part and a second end
affixable to said second end of said boot.

9. The assembly of claim 8 wherein said boot cover is affixable to said second end
of said boot by a crimping operation on said at least one sealing bead.

15 10. The assembly of claim 8 wherein said sealing area of said second end of said boot
having a second sealing bead.

11. The assembly of claim 10 wherein said sealing bead is located at an end of said
sealing area.

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12. The assembly of claim 11 wherein said second sealing bead is located
approximately 90° from said sealing bead.

13. The assembly of claim 12 further including an annular channel on an inside surface of said sealing area.

14. A joint assembly, said assembly including:

5 a shaft;
a first joint part connected to said shaft;
a second joint part cooperable with said first joint part to transmit torque therebetween;

10 a boot having a first end contacting said shaft and a second end associated with said second joint part, said second end having a sealing area including a plurality of sealing beads; and

15 a boot cover having a first end and a second end, said first end of said boot cover affixable to said second joint part and said second end of said boot cover affixable to said second end of said boot by a crimping operation between said plurality of sealing boots and said second end of said boot cover.

15. The assembly of claim 14 wherein one of said plurality of sealing beads is located at an end of said sealing area.

20 16. The assembly of claim 15 wherein a second sealing bead of said plurality of sealing beads is located approximately 90° from said one of plurality of said sealing beads.

17. The assembly of claim 16 further including an annular channel on an inside surface of said sealing area.

18. A boot for use between a shaft and a joint, said boot comprising:

5 a first end contacting the shaft; and

a second end having a sealing area, said sealing area having a plurality of sealing beads, said second end being affixable to the joint by performing a crimping operation between said sealing beads and the joint.

10 19. A method for connecting a first and second joint part of a constant velocity joint, said method comprising the steps of:

providing a boot having a first end affixable to a shaft and a second end associated with said second joint part, said second end having a sealing area including at least one sealing bead;

15 providing a boot cover having a first end and a second end;
affixing said first end of said boot cover to said second joint part; and
affixing said second end of said boot cover to said second end of said boot by performing a crimping operation on the at least one sealing bead.

20 20. The method of claim 19 wherein said sealing area of said second end of said boot having a first and second sealing bead.

21. A method for connecting first and second joint parts of a constant velocity joint, said method including the steps of:

providing a boot having a first end affixable to a shaft and a second end associated with the second joint part, said second end having a sealing area including a plurality

5 of sealing beads;

providing a boot cover having a first end and a second end;

affixing said first end of said boot cover to the second joint part; and

affixing said second end of said boot cover to said second end of said boot by performing a crimping operation on said plurality of sealing beads.